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(71) Applicant: Marconi UK Intellectual Property Ltd
Coventry, CV3 1HJ (GB)

(72) Inventor: Butler, Graham
Chilwell, Nottingham NG9 5DA (GB)

(74) Representative: Hoste, Colin Francis
Marconi Intellectual Property
Crompton Close
Basildon, Essex SS14 3BA (GB)

(54) High dynamic range error rate monitor

(57) There is provided an error rate monitor (10) incorporating a counter (30) which is incremented as errors are detected in a data stream passing through an interface unit (20) connected to the counter (30). The counter (30) is also simultaneously decremented at a rate proportional to an exponential of a value presently

stored in the counter (30). The monitor (10) thereby provides from the value stored in the counter (30) a measure of error rate in the data stream, the value substantially proportional to a logarithm of error rate in the data stream, thereby providing the monitor (10) with a relatively large error rate monitoring dynamic range.

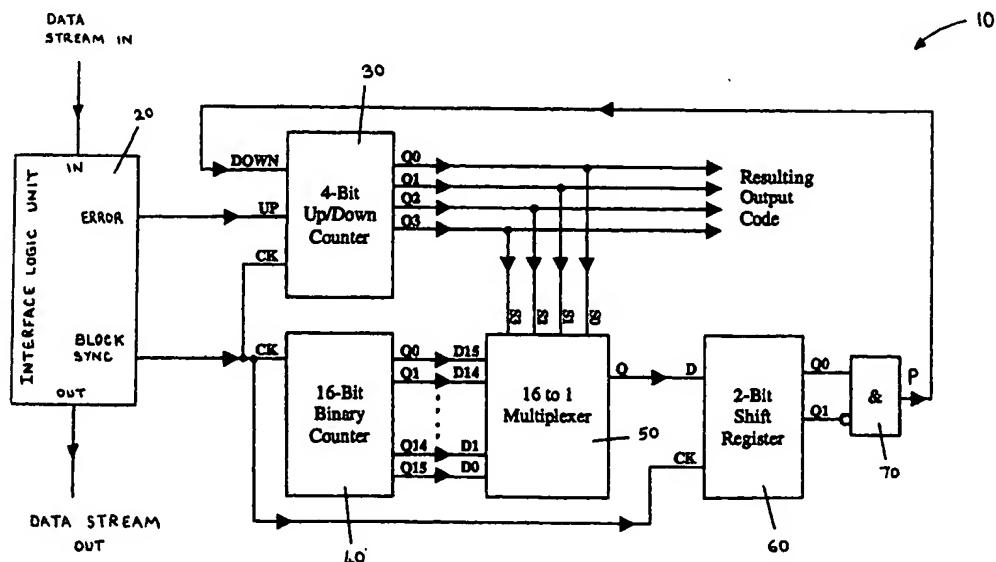


Fig. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 00 30 9891

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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Y	* abstract *	9,10	
	* column 9, line 34 - column 10, last paragraph *		
A	* figure 5 *	6-8	

Y	US 5 513 185 A (SCHMIDT DOUGLAS C) 30 April 1996 (1996-04-30)	9,10	
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A	KEREKES I ; ANIDO G ; BRADLOW H S ; EYERS T: "Dimensioning of leaky buckets to be used as monitors" ELECTRONICS LETTERS, vol. 29, 21 January 1993 (1993-01-21), pages 245-246, XP002271033 UK * the whole document *	1-11	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H04L
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
Munich	20 February 2004	Stolte, N	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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